

HB 7119

2006

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student athlete recruiting; requiring
3 the Florida High School Athletic Association to hold
4 certain bylaws in abeyance; providing for creation of a
5 task force to review student athlete recruiting issues;
6 providing for task force membership and duties; requiring
7 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature;
8 requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
9 Government Accountability to conduct a review of
10 recruiting violations by Florida High School Athletic
11 Association member schools; providing appropriations;
12 providing an effective date.

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14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16 Section 1. (1) The Florida High School Athletic
17 Association shall, until July 1, 2007, hold in abeyance the
18 2006-2007 revisions to sections 11.01, 11.02, 11.2, 11.3, and
19 11.4, Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association,
20 relating to student athlete residence and transfer, adopted
21 pursuant to s. 1006.20, Florida Statutes.

22 (2) A Student Athlete Recruiting Task Force shall be
23 created to review issues concerning recruiting of secondary
24 school student athletes. The task force shall make
25 recommendations that preserve the parental right to school
26 choice while protecting the integrity of Florida's
27 interscholastic athletic programs. The task force shall
28 consider:

- 29 (a) The definition of recruiting.
- 30 (b) Current and proposed procedures governing recruiting
- 31 of secondary school student athletes.
- 32 (c) Documented past recruiting practices and violations.
- 33 Practices to be reviewed shall include, but not be limited to,
- 34 the provision of tuition scholarships and other inducements,
- 35 recruitment of foreign athletes, and active solicitation of
- 36 student athletes and parents by school employees or boosters.
- 37 (d) The impact of student athlete recruiting rules on
- 38 parental school choice.
- 39 (e) The relationship between student athlete transfers and
- 40 recruiting, including the role of student athlete transfer rules
- 41 in preventing recruiting.
- 42 (f) Measures for preventing improper student athlete
- 43 recruiting and penalties for recruiting violations.
- 44 (3) The task force shall be comprised of representatives
- 45 from home school and public and private secondary school
- 46 proponents and opponents of the 2006-2007 revisions to the
- 47 bylaws specified in subsection (1). The task force members shall
- 48 be appointed as follows:
- 49 (a) Three proponents of the bylaws and three opponents of
- 50 the bylaws each appointed by the President of the Senate.
- 51 (b) Three proponents of the bylaws and three opponents of
- 52 the bylaws each appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 53 Representatives.
- 54 (c) A task force chair appointed by the Governor.

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55 (4) Task force members shall serve without compensation
56 but shall be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses in
57 accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

58 (5) The task force shall be staffed by the Office of
59 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability and be
60 monitored by the Department of Education. The chair shall
61 convene meetings of the task force as needed and shall ensure
62 that the recommendations are completed and forwarded on time.

63 (6) The task force shall hold its initial meeting not
64 later than June 1, 2006, and shall submit its recommendations to
65 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
66 the House of Representatives by January 1, 2007. The task force
67 shall dissolve upon rendering its recommendations.

68 Section 2. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and
69 Government Accountability shall conduct an independent review of
70 secondary school recruiting violations among Florida High School
71 Athletic Association member schools and shall have full access
72 to Florida High School Athletic Association records for the
73 purpose of this review.

74 Section 3. The sum of \$60,000 is appropriated from the
75 General Revenue Fund to the Office of Program Policy Analysis
76 and Government Accountability for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to
77 support the work of the Student Athlete Recruiting Task Force.
78 The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund
79 to the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
80 Accountability for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to fund its
81 independent review of secondary school recruiting violations.

82 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.